In the claims:

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

SUB B2)
A2

-- 9. (Amended) A method for managing access between a plurality of hosts and a backup system, the backup system being part of a data storage including at least one data storage device partitioned into a plurality of volumes and a first database including first configuration data used by the hosts to determine which hosts have authorized access to each of the plurality of volumes, the method comprising:

receiving, by the data storage, a request from at least one of the hosts for access to data stored on the backup system; and

determining, in response to second configuration data from a second database, that the host requesting access is authorized to access the portion of data stored on the backup system. --

REMARKS

We have amended claim 9 to more particularly recite the subject matter sought to be protected by the claim.

Prior Art Rejections

Independent Claim 1

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 as being anticipated by Blumenau (U.S. 6,295,575). The Examiner points to various passages in the Blumenau patent that refer to restricting access by a host to particular volumes of storage system. We submit, however, that the Blumenau patent neither describes nor suggests a first database including first configuration data for identifying which hosts coupled to a data storage have authorized access to volumes of a storage device as well as a second database including second configuration data for identifying which of the hosts have access to a backup storage device, as is required by claim 1.

As discussed in applicant's specification: